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WASHINGTON STATE

PRESIDENTS HOLIDAY MESSAGE

By the time this message goes to press the Thanksgiving holiday will be a memory, but we can look back upon the many things we can be thankful for. In our present day we have so many conveniences that make life so much easier for us than the early pilgrims had.

Yet the thanksgiving day was set aside by the early pilgrims to give thanks for their many blessings, that they were thankful for, at that time.

The traditional thanksgiving bird, the turkey, has undergone much change, from a wild bird living on seeds, nuts and berries, that was built more for flight than the table. It was narrow breasted, dry breasted, reason the cranberry became popular as an accompaniment. Now we have the broad breasted birds, fed scientifically so the meat is juicy and tender. Yet I am sure the early pilgrims were as thankful, if not more so, than we are today. With all our conveniences, which we take for granted.

This December issue will be the Christmas issue so while on this holiday thought of the past and present, brings to mind that since the birth of the Christ child, many things have come to pass in the evolution of progress.

Christ was born in a stable in a manger with hay or straw for his mother to lay upon. Now the most ordinary mother and child has the conveniences of a modern delivery room, with every sanitary precaution.

Christ's mother did not have the benefit of scientific diet and prenatal care, she rode a donkey to her delivery room. Their diets were rough and for the most part raw, as it consisted of fruits, nuts, seeds, herbs and meat from sheep and goats. They followed their flocks over the country as they traveled in search of food. Their shelters were make-shift tents from animal skins, they slept on the ground, any stream or water hole could be the bath tub. No shaving equipment, no teeth brushing after meals. In short, their way of life was very crude. Yet they lived two or three times longer, we are told, than our modern people with all the comforts and conveniences of today.

It makes one stop and wonder if we are really progressing or is our soft way of life making us weaklings and cardiac and ulcer cases with our so called progress.

It is a fact however, that god created us with the power to think and put an abundance of everything on earth that we may utilise it, because of this fact, much is being done to correct many of our past mistakes so that now with scientific medicine, surgery and massage therapy, life is being prolonged, pains are relieved. The young generation is growing taller and heavier. In another generation or two, we will be having nine and ten foot men and women and five hundred pound football players.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Fraternally,
Blossom Guntley, R.M.T.

The meeting of massage therapists, on November 13, 1960 held in the consultation room of the Medical Arts Building, Seattle, was very poorly attended. Members and non-members alike, were unwilling to give a portion of a Sunday, and a little of their time, for their own benefit.

The problem of the bath house license fee, assessed by the city of Seattle, upon therapists and public bath houses alike, that was to be brought before the meeting, was tabled for want of representation, by those therapists who were involved. Only one member using steam cabinet therapy being present.

A general discussion followed in comparison of Seattle massage (operators) therapists license and what the state of Washington massage therapists hope to have.

It is this writers opinion that both city and state licenses should be above and beyond the jurisdiction of the police department. Only when complaints are filed in regard to an individual, should that individual be subjected to police investigation.

To those present, there was a shining example of why we need better massage schools, with a thorough screening, of prospective students, and why the state of Washington needs a board of licensing examiners, to protect not only the qualified therapists, but the general public in need of massage therapy.

Much credit is due our local president, Art Dunbar, for his efforts in trying to get members and non-members alike, to join forces in a united effort, to be of benefit to each and everyone. United we stand, divided we are falling. We are no stronger than our weakest link, that link is - lack of interest, lack of attendance, lack of members, and - no one else cares, why should I ?

Seventy-four invitations were sent members and non-members alike, that are practicing massage therapy and related techniques in Seattle, and adjacent areas. Of that number, there were four members and two non-members that attended the meeting. With this sort of interest in the future of massage therapy with the passing of the present generation, there will be no massage therapy.

Every life has its days of despondency, and times when the way is bedimmed with uncertainty. Fears and worries may crowd upon us, until hope is stifled, but for such occasions this poem holds forth a promise worth remembering. "There is enough light to live by, after all!"

ENOUGH OF LIGHT

by Mable Newman

Nights when the light without a warning fails,
And darkness shrouds the once familiar room,
I stand quite still a moment, till my eyes
Adjust themselves to the unaccustomed gloom.
Then I no longer fear to walk about
In dread of obstacles I cannot see;
Enough of light is left to guide my steps,
Enough of me to move with certainty
Life, too, is bright at times, the way is clear;
Then brilliance fades, and heavy shadows fall;
But hearts that learn to wait are sure to find
There's light enough to live by, after all.

from Vita-Rays
